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Just Position, Serious Attitude, Unshakable Resolve

(Nhan Dan editorial of May 10, 1969)

PRINCIPLES AND MAIN CONTENT OF THE OVERALL SOLUTION

Proposed By the South Viet Nam
National Front for Liberation to the
South Viet Nam Problem to Help
Restore Peace in Viet Nam

PROCEEDING from a desire to reach a political solution with a view to ending the U.S. imperialists' war of aggression in South Viet Nam and helping restore peace in Viet Nam;

On the basis of respect for the fundamental national rights of the Vietnamese people;

Proceeding from the fundamental principles of the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam and the actual situation in Viet Nam;

On the basis of the Political Programme and the five-point solution of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, which are in keeping with the four-point stand of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam;

The South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation expounds as follows the principles and main content of an overall solution to the South Viet Nam problem to help restore peace in Viet Nam:

1. To respect the Vietnamese people's fundamental national rights, i.e., independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity, as recognized by the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam;

2. The U.S. Government must withdraw from South Viet Nam all U.S. troops, military personnel, arms and war material, and all troops, military personnel, arms, and war material of the other foreign countries at the U.S. camp without posing any condition whatsoever; liquidate all U.S. military bases in South Viet Nam; renounce all encroachments on the sovereignty, territory and security of South Viet Nam and the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam;

3. The Vietnamese people's right to defend their Fatherland is the sacred, inalienable right of self-defence of all peoples. The question of the Vietnamese armed forces in South Viet Nam shall be resolved by the Vietnamese parties among themselves.

4. The people of South Viet Nam settle themselves their own affairs without foreign interference. They decide themselves the political regime of South Viet Nam through free and democratic general elections. Through free and democratic general elections, a Constituent Assembly will be set up, a Constitution worked out, and a coalition government of South Viet Nam installed, reflecting national concord and the broad union of all social strata.

5. During the period intervening between the restoration of peace and the general elections, neither party shall impose its political regime on the people of South Viet Nam.

The political forces representing the various social strata and political tendencies in South Viet Nam that stand for peace, independence and neutrality, including those persons who, for political reasons, have to live abroad, will enter into talks to set up a provisional coalition government based on the principle of equality, democracy and mutual respect with a view to achieving a peaceful, independent, democratic and neutral South Viet Nam.

The provisional coalition government is to have the following tasks:

a) To implement the agreements to be concluded on the withdrawal of the troops of the United States and the other foreign countries of the American camp, etc.

b) To achieve national concord, and a broad union of all social strata, political forces, nationalities, religious communities, and all persons, no matter what their political beliefs and their past may be, provided they stand for peace, independence and neutrality.

c) To achieve broad democratic freedoms — freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom of gathering, freedom of belief, freedom to establish political parties and organizations, freedom to demonstrate, etc. — to set free those persons jailed on political grounds; to prohibit all acts of terror, reprisals and discrimination against people having collaborated with either side, and who are now in the country or abroad, as provided for in the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam.

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AT the May 8, 1969, 10th session of the Paris Conference on Viet Nam, Tran Binh Kiem, (chief delegate of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, presented an important document of the Central Committee of the NFL concerning "the principles and main content of an overall solution to the South Viet Nam problem, to help restore peace in Viet Nam."

THE NFL two-point solution was put forward at a time when the war of resistance of the South Viet Nam people against U.S. aggression, for national salvation was recording big and all-round successes. The brilliant exploits accomplished by the South Viet Nam patriotic armed forces and people since the Mau Than (1968) Spring general offensives and widespread uprisings have altered the complexion of the war, driving the U.S. expeditionary army and the puppet troops into a very embarrassing position of strategic defensive. Again since Spring this year the army and people of heroic South Viet Nam have been keeping up their continual and vigorous offensive, inflicting on the enemy serious losses in manpower and war material. The fight for independence and freedom as well as the just position of the NFL and people of South Viet Nam concerning the solution to the South Viet

Nam problem have elicited sympathy and support from the world's peoples, including the progressive people in the United States.

Meanwhile, notwithstanding their bitter failure, the U.S. imperialist aggressors remain stubborn and belligerent. Since Nixon came into office, the U.S. has continued pushing up its military operations, multiplying terrorist raids against the South Vietnamese, increasing aerial attacks on villages and rice fields, committing more and more heinous crimes against the people. It is clinging obstinately to the hellish and rotten Thieu-Ky-Huong puppets, while feverishly boosting the strength of the puppet army. The U.S. has also continued its aerial violations of the sovereignty and threats to the security of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and has even bombed and rocketed many of her populated areas. At the Paris Conference on Viet Nam, the U.S. delegate resorted to distortions and slanders to stall the discussion of the fundamental question, i.e., cessation of U.S. aggression and withdrawal of U.S. troops from South Viet Nam. Because of this stubborn attitude, the Paris Conference has not been able to move an inch forward through its sessions over three and half months.

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South Viet Nam

◎ Two enemy entrenched camps destroyed in Tay Ninh province, a Battalion H.Q. and 7 U.S.-puppet companies wiped out within 5 days.

◎ 49 U.S. military vehicles destroyed, 2 U.S. companies wiped out in 3 ambushes on Route No.13 North of Saigon.

◎ More than 200 enemy troops knocked out near Ham Luong on Apr. 25, 70 others put out of action, 6 105-mm cannons destroyed, 2 ammo depots and 8 petrol dumps burnt by women gunners on May 2 at Vinh Thuan, Mekong Delta.

◎ In 10 days, in 70 PLAF attacks in the sector close to the DMZ, 1,250 U.S.-puppet casualties reported, 30 planes and helicopters shot down, destroyed or damaged.

North Viet Nam

To date, the number of American aircraft downed in North Viet Nam amounts to **3,286**

Just Position, Serious Attitude, Unshakable Resolve

(Continued from page 1)

THE U.S. imperialists' war intensification and all-out aggression and machinations have laid bare their scheme to prolong the occupation of South Viet Nam by the U.S. expeditionary army, to consolidate and beef up the puppet administration and army as tools for the realization of their neo-colonialism in South Viet Nam and a prolonged partition of Viet Nam. President Nixon himself in a recent statement made clear the U.S. intention to pursue military actions in order to secure a position of strength in negotiations. U.S. aggressive design, colonialist policy and stubborn attitude are blocking the search for a correct political solution to the South Viet Nam problem. They lie at the root of the present deadlock of the Paris Conference.

The overall solution of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation was advanced in the combat of a winning and strong position of the South Viet Nam people in taking the fight against U.S. aggression, for national salvation, to a new high, when the U.S. imperialist aggressors, for all their blither failures, continue stubborn and belatedly. This decisive position strikes a shattering blow at the aggressive position and deceptive maneuvers and malicious charges of the U.S.

THE NFL's position concerning an overall solution safeguards the fundamental national rights of the Vietnamese people, i.e. inde-

pendence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity as recognized by the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam. It reaffirms the sacred right to self-defence of the Vietnamese people in their fight against aggression to defend their country. It has been in its substance, prompted by the present reality in Viet Nam. It sets forth and proposes fair and reasonable answers to practical problems concerning South Viet Nam. It is an unimpeachable token of the good will and the spirit of national concord of the NFL and people of South Viet Nam.

The chief delegate of the NFL to the Paris Conference has soundly disposed of the U.S. wessing of the facts concerning the situation in Viet Nam and the fight of the Vietnamese people. The U.S. "North Viet Nam's aggression against the South" fabrication, its claim that U.S. troops have come to South Viet Nam to "resist aggression" and its demand for "mutual withdrawal" are all designed to make black white, conceal the aggressive nature of the U.S., equate the Vietnamese people who are resisting aggression and the U.S. who is the aggressor, in an attempt to bring about the withdrawal of U.S. troops from South Viet Nam. The NFL flatly rejected these arrogant claims and pointed out that the U.S. has committed an aggression against Viet Nam, if "mutual withdrawal" as the U.S. has illegally introduced U.S. and satellite troops into South Viet Nam, it must pull out all its troops together with their military personnel, weapons and war means without

setting any condition whatsoever. This is an issue between the Vietnamese people and the U.S. imperialist aggressors, which the U.S. must not confuse with questions concerning various parties among the Vietnamese.

ANOTHER important point which is given prominence in the NFL overall solution is the right to self-determination of the South Viet Nam people. The U.S. imperialists have been proclaiming from all households that they "respect" the right to self-determination of the South Viet Nam people, that they are for "general elections" and "one-man-one-vote", etc. Meanwhile they jealously keep the Thieu-Khuong clique of traitors, reactionaries and puppet army. At the same time, they declare their opposition to the formation of a coalition government in South Viet Nam. There is no doubt that the U.S. is planning to impose its neo-colonialism on South Viet Nam.

The NFL overall solution gives the lie to these U.S. professions and sets forth the correct method to enforce the genuine right to self-determination of the South Viet Nam people, i.e. the South Viet Nam people must be left to settle themselves their own affairs without foreign interference; the South Viet Nam

people will decide themselves the political regime of South Viet Nam through free and democratic general elections to choose a constituent assembly, work out their own constitution, install a coalition government. During the period between the restoration of peace and the general elections, neither party shall impose its political regime on the South Viet Nam people; the political forces representing the various social strata and political tendencies that stand for peace, independence and neutrality will enter into talks to set up a provisional coalition government based on the principle of equality, democracy and mutual respect. This government will take necessary measures to achieve a peaceful, independent, democratic, and neutral South Viet Nam.

THE Vietnamese people's legitimate fight for independence and freedom has recorded tremendous successes and is heading for still higher ones. Our position is that the U.S. imperialists refuse to draw the necessary lessons from their failures and persist in their bellicose, colonialist stand, the Vietnamese armed forces and people will continue as one, step up their sacred resistance and "fight until the Yankees quit and the puppets topple".

President Ho Chi Minh had said: "Even if only one aggressor remains on our soil, we must go on fighting and never give up." Persisting in our struggle and determined to wage a long drawn-out fight until we have regained our sacred fundamental national rights, that is the iron resolve of our people. No brutal acts of war of the enemy can block the sweeping advance of our army and people. The U.S. imperialists and their puppet South Viet Nam people who are pushing up their offenses and winning ever bigger successes, the enemy and their puppet South Viet Nam people are increasing their wickedness and their could readiness while doing their utmost to accomplish their sacred duty as the front rear toward the great front and the rear toward the final victory over the U.S. aggressors.

Our people's fight U.S. aggression, for national salvation is certain to achieve complete victory.

a) The parties will negotiate the release of the army-men captured in war.

b) The U.S. Government must bear full responsibility for the losses and devastations it has caused to the Vietnamese people in both zones.

c) The parties shall reach agreement on an international supervision about the withdrawal from South Viet Nam of the troops, military personnel, and war materiel of the United States and the other foreign countries of the American camp.

The principles and content of the overall solution expounded above form an integrated whole. On the basis of these principles and content, the parties shall reach understanding to effect of concluding agreements on the above-mentioned questions of withdrawal of the war in South Viet Nam, and contributing to restore peace in Viet Nam.

AT the meeting commemorating the 15th anniversary of the Dien Bien Phu victory held in Hanoi on May 5 last, General Luong Thua Vu delivered a talk. General Vuong Thua Vu, now deputy Chief of Staff of the Viet Nam People's Army (VPA), was one of the responsible military chiefs during the famous battle which ended on May 7, 1954 after 55 days and nights of dogged fighting, with the capitulation of General De Castries and the whole garrison totalling 16,200 men of crack units.

In the first part of his speech, he succinctly recalled the circumstances which, during the 1953-1954 Winter-Spring Campaign, led the enemy to an attempt to regain the strategic initiative: the Navares Plan. Against their will, the aggressors had to occupy then defend Dien Bien Phu, which became the symbol of the war of colonial reconquest.

The speaker then outlined the strategy of the VNP-1 Command which had proved to be thoroughly judicious. In a first phase, it chose to strike the enemy in the most important theatres where he was the weakest, thereby inflicting on him heavy losses and forcing him to scatter his forces all over Indochina. Then came the second phase during which the revolutionary forces got up steam to win the decisive victory at Dien Bien Phu.

In the second part of his speech, General Vu brought out the significance of this splendid victory of the Vietnamese people whose history had been, over the last 20 centuries, marked by undauntedness and determination to defend national independence, freedom and unity.

The author underlined three factors which had been at the origin of this decisive victory of the Vietnamese people in the struggle for liberation.

The sound and imaginative political line and military line of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, the vanguard party of the working class and labouring people of our country.

The several thousand years old glorious history of the Vietnamese people, whose traditions of struggle for national salvation have been unceasingly enhanced through the centuries.

The noble international solidarity of the working class and the whole of progressive mankind in the entire world with our just fight.

The third part of General Vuong Thua Vu's talk of which we are printing here a slightly abridged translation, is devoted to the lessons which should be drawn by the people from the Dien Bien Phu victory for the benefit of the present struggle against the most "formidable" imperialist war machine mankind has ever known.

(...) The historic victory at Dien Bien Phu and in the 1953-1954 Winter-Spring Campaign showed our armed forces and people's irrepressible resolve to fight and to win.

Our resolve to fight and to win is the unyielding and indomitable spirit of the Dien Hong Assembly (1) depicting the new spirit of Leninism. It is the continuation of the first days of the first days of the Resistance War, intimately welded to deep class consciousness and brought to a very high level in the thick of the Resistance War in its decisive stage.

It found expression first and foremost in the strategic singleness of purpose of our Party's Central Committee. Fired by a thoroughly revolutionary spirit, our Party fully grasped Marxist-Leninist military science, made a very lucid appraisal of the situation, and arrived at an extremely sensible strategic decision: to concentrate forces to wipe out the enemy at Dien Bien Phu and bring the Resistance War to victory.

Our determination to fight and to win was vividly illustrated by the close co-ordination of the army and people's forces with a view to wiping out the enemy of our armed forces and people on all battlefields across the country.

It was obvious in innumerable examples resplendent with revolutionary heroism set by our compatriots and fighters in the whole country who, throughout the 6 months

LESSONS OF DIEN BIEN PHU

General VUONG THUA VU

of the Winter-Spring campaign, especially during the 55 days and nights of relentless fighting under showers of enemy bombs and shells and in the face of the enemy's major, medium and small battles, then, with imagination and timelessness, they concentrated their forces to wipe out the enemy at Dien Bien Phu and achieve a decisive victory.

We worked out and put into practice the "steady fighting and steady advance" guiding line, proceeded with the building of a whole network of battlefields for attacking and encircling the enemy, combined the diversified fighting methods applied by the infantry, artillery, engineering, anti-aircraft and other forces, made concerted attacks by different arms, musketed and brought into full play all weapons at our disposal, reduced the effectiveness of the enemy's modern weaponry and technique and put out of action 10,200 enemy troops in the strongest line of the camp in Indochina at that time.

We gave full play to the role of the rear base which provided effective support for the frontline. Land reform stirred up the revolutionary spirit of the entire army and people and further strengthened the rear base, making it strong enough to solve the problem of supply for an extensive theatre of operations with large troops concentrations and sustained fighting and hundreds of kilometres from the rear base.

The correct leadership of our Party, the resolve of our entire army and people to fight and to win, the distribution of land to the peasantry, the unity between the rear and the front-line, the close coordination among various battlefields, the

people's war, the Southern people and armed forces have been coupling armed struggle with political action, acting with impetuosity on the offensive, successfully beating the enemy on all battlefields, in the cities, in the delta plain and in

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PRINCIPLES AND MAIN CONTENT OF THE OVERALL SOLUTION...

(Continued from page 1)

d) To heal the war wounds, to restore and develop the economy, to restore the normal life of the people, and to improve the living conditions of the labouring people.

e) To hold free and democratic general elections in the whole of South Viet Nam with a view to achieving the right for the people of South Viet Nam to settle themselves their own affairs, in accordance with the content of point 4 mentioned above.

6. South Viet Nam will carry out a foreign policy of peace and neutrality;

To carry out policy of good neighbourly relations with the Kingdom of Cambodia on the basis of respect for her independence, sovereignty, neutrality and territorial integrity within her present borders; to carry out a policy of good neighbourly relations with the Kingdom of Laos on the basis of respect for the 1962

Geneva Agreements on Laos.

To establish diplomatic, economic and cultural relations with all countries, irrespective of political and social regime, including the United States, in accordance with the five principles of peaceful coexistence: mutual respect for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, non-aggression, non-interference in the internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, peaceful coexistence; to accept economic and technical aid with no political conditions attached from any country.

7. The reunification of Viet Nam will be achieved by Viet

steps, by peaceful means, through discussions and agreement between the two zones, without foreign interference.

Pending the peaceful reunification of Viet Nam, the two zones shall establish normal relations in all fields on the basis of mutual respect.

The military demarcation line between the two zones at the 17th parallel, as provided for by the 1954 Geneva Agreements, is a provisional line and does not constitute in any way a political or territorial boundary. The two zones reach agreement on the status of the demilitarized zone, and work out modali-

ties for movements across the provisional military demarcation line.

8. As provided for in the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam, pending the peaceful reunification of Viet Nam, the two zones North and South of Viet Nam undertake to refrain from joining any alliance with foreign countries, not to allow foreign country to maintain military bases, troops and military personnel on their respective soil, and not to recognize the protection of any country or military alliance of the other.

9. To resolve the aftermath of the war:

AT FIFTY YEARS' INTERVAL, SAME RESOLVE TO FIGHT AND TO WIN!
DIEN BIEN PHU 1954: The Viet Nam People's armymen with their hands hauled big guns up to mountains surrounding the famous valley

Mr. TRAN BUU KIEM Presents the Overall Solution Proposed by the National Front for Liberation to the South Viet Nam Problem

Minister of State XU THUY Declares Full Support for the Trust Position of the National Front and Stresses Our Country's Policy of Lasting Friendship Towards Cambodia and Laos

The U.S. must be held fully responsible for the deadlock in the Paris Conference on Viet Nam.

By waging its war of aggression against Viet Nam, the U.S. has grossly trampled underfoot the fundamental national rights of the Vietnamese people: the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam and international law, and has perpetrated abominable crimes against the Vietnamese people. Exercising their sacred right to self defence, the people of South Viet Nam as well as the entire people of Viet Nam, united as one man, have risen up to resist U.S. aggression and save their country. Under the glorious banner of the South Viet Nam NLF, the valiant resistance war of the South Viet Nam people has won great victories.

Having sustained serious defeats in its aggressive war and faced with the strong demands of the people of the United States and the world, the U.S. was compelled to make unconditional surrenders over the entire territory of the DRVN and to accept the holding of the Paris four-party conference with the participation of the delegates of the South Viet Nam NLF, so as to find a peaceful solution to the Viet Nam problem.

To provide a basis for a correct solution of the South Viet Nam problem, on November 3, 1968, the South Viet Nam NLF made public its five-point position. Proceeding from that position, the delegation of the South Viet Nam NLF, with seriousness and goodwill, has for more than three months been making unceasing efforts to help the Paris conference move forward, so as to promptly put an end to the U.S. aggressive war, and restore peace in Viet Nam.

But what has the U.S. done in the meantime? Though compelled to take part in this conference, it has continued to intensify its aggressive war aimed at maintaining its neo-colonialist regime in South Viet Nam.

During the presidential election campaign, Mr. Nixon promised to bring peace to Viet Nam. Since his coming to the White House, he has many times spoken of "peace", and recently about a "peace programme" for the Viet Nam issue. However, the Nixon administration has acted quite contrary to its words.

In South Viet Nam, the U.S. has stepped up its

aggressive war, displaying unprecedented ferocity. It has not ceased to send more U.S. and satellite troops, more weapons and war means to South Viet Nam, and has increased the budget for that war. American troops have been sent on sweep operations everywhere, and all types of aircraft, particularly B-52s, concentrated to conduct day and night savage air bombings over densely populated areas. The regions along the sea and rivers, and around American bases have been subjected to shelling by U.S. warships and heavy artillery. Such barbarous crimes as those perpetrated by the U.S. in the U.S. and in the world. But driven into an impasse, the U.S. heavy failure. Ardently cherishing independence and freedom, the South Viet Nam people have been resolutely pushing ahead their sacred resistance war. They have won new glorious victories in their Spring offensive. The U.S. aggressive war is being further driven into an impasse, the so-called "de-Americanization" of the war, that is, the Vietnamese to fight Vietnamese.

At this Conference, the American delegates have evaded the basic questions put forward by the delegation of the South Viet Nam NLF. As for the Government and that of the DRVN, repeat again and again the slanderous allegations that North Viet Nam makes aggression against South Viet Nam and so-called "concrete proposals" which are in fact unreasonable demands aimed at covering up the U.S. aggression and intensification of the war, and at the same time compelling the U.S. aggressive war to stop, so as to promptly put an end to the U.S. aggressive war, and restore peace in Viet Nam.

In order to open the way to progress of this Conference, as desired by the people in Viet Nam, in the U.S. and in the world, our delegation, by order of the Central Committee of the South Viet Nam NLF presents to the Conference the following document of the South Viet Nam NLF:

The Thieu Ky Huong administration has executed all the orders of the U.S. aggression, and intensification of the war. They ruthlessly repress the movement of the people in South Viet Nam cities who demand independence and freedom. They arrest, torture, kill and kidnap intellectuals, students, pupils, businessmen, tradesmen, Buddhist monks, Catholic priests, religious people and anybody

else who oppose them. They seek every means to disturb the Paris Four-Party Conference, and has not ceased to justify the U.S. aggression and to maintain American troops in South Viet Nam to get protection from them.

The U.S. policy of intensifying the war and negotiating from a position of strength has kept the Paris Conference at a standstill, against the desire of the people in Viet Nam, in the U.S. and in the world. But driven into an impasse, the U.S. heavy failure. Ardently cherishing independence and freedom, the South Viet Nam people have been resolutely pushing ahead their sacred resistance war. They have won new glorious victories in their Spring offensive. The U.S. aggressive war is being further driven into an impasse, the so-called "de-Americanization" of the war, that is, the Vietnamese to fight Vietnamese.

Broad sectors of the public opinion in the U.S. and in the world are demanding that the Nixon administration put an immediate end to the aggressive war in Viet Nam, withdraw unconditionally all U.S. and satellite troops from South Viet Nam and promptly restore peace in Viet Nam.

In order to open the way to progress of this Conference, as desired by the people in Viet Nam, in the U.S. and in the world, our delegation, by order of the Central Committee of the South Viet Nam NLF presents to the Conference the following document of the South Viet Nam NLF:

PRINCIPLES AND MAIN CONTENT OF THE OVERALL SOLUTION TO THE SOUTH VIET NAM PROBLEM TO HELP RESTORE PEACE IN VIET NAM

(see text on page 1)

The overall solution put forward by the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation fully meets the national rights of the Viet-

namese people and the interests of world peace.

The South Viet Nam NLF, which has organized and led the South Vietnamese people in their struggle against U.S. aggression, is the authentic representative of the South Viet Nam people, full competent to settle all problems relating to South Viet Nam.

The aforesaid overall solution to the South Viet Nam problem proposed by the South Viet Nam NLF once again demonstrates our correct position, and our consistent goodwill and serious intent.

This overall solution ensures the fundamental national rights of the Vietnamese people and the right to self-determination of the South Vietnamese people. It ensures a lasting peace in Viet Nam. It embodies the spirit of broad national concord of the South Viet Nam people. It contributes to preserve peace and security in Indo-China and South East Asia, responds to the aspirations for peace of the American people as well as the world's people. This solution creates conditions for the U.S. to put an honorable end to its war, a war which is costly in human life and property, unpopular, and prejudicial to the U.S. prestige.

The South Viet Nam NLF is firmly confident that the people of both South and North Viet Nam standing shoulder to shoulder in their common struggle for independence, freedom and peace, will not doubt wholeheartedly support this overall solution.

The South Viet Nam NLF, which is closely united with the Viet Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces, believes that the U.S. policy of broad national unity and concord, all religious, political, social and cultural organisations in South Viet Nam, all political forces and Vietnamese residents abroad will warmly hail this solution, and the national-minded and peace-desiring members of the Saigon army and administration will sympathize with it.

The people and governments of the socialist countries and of the peace-and justice-loving countries, the

peace and democratic organisation in the world, which have always given vigorous support to the South Vietnamese people's resistance war against U.S. aggression, for national salvation will surely support the overall solution to the South Viet Nam problem put forward by the South Viet Nam NLF. Together with the progressive people in the U.S., the Party Conference on Viet Nam including the Representatives of the DRVN, the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, the U.S. and the Saigon administration, whose object is to find a peaceful solution to the problem.

But during the last 15 sessions, the U.S. has evaded the key problem, that is to withdraw all U.S. and satellite troops from South Viet Nam without posing any conditions whatsoever. Moreover, the Nixon administration has been making every effort to intensify the war of aggression in South Viet Nam, it has been doing its best to maintain the warlike and imperialist Thieu-Ky-Huong administration as a tool for the implementation of the policy that consists in "using Vietnamese to fight Vietnamese" under the label of "de-Americanizing" or "Vietnamizing" the war, for the furtherance of neo-colonialism in South Viet Nam, and for the perpetual partition of Viet Nam. It has feverishly increased reconnaissance flights over nearly all the provinces of North Viet Nam and air raids on the battlefront and the rear parallels. What it is trying to do is to gain a position of strength in the battlefield, as well as at the Conference table.

Regarding the four-point stand of the Government of the DRVN and the five points of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, the basis for a correct solution of the Viet Nam problem - the U.S. representative has persisted in rejecting them, arrogantly and consistently advanced nothing but absurd arguments. They have been putting forward so-called concrete proposals which, in fact, are merely aimed at enabling the U.S. to pursue its war of aggression and neo-colonialism in South Viet Nam under the guise of plan of the Nixon administration.

This stubborn attitude of the U.S. is the very reason why the Paris Conference has failed to make progress. The American people and the peoples of the world have severely condemned this attitude of the Nixon administration. In South Viet Nam, along with a resolute fight against U.S. aggression, a war of aggression, the people in temporarily occupied areas, especially in the cities, demanding the restoration of peace, the overthrow of the Thieu Ky-Huong administration, the establishment of a peace cabinet, and the conduct of serious talks with the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation.

Once again to show its serious intent and goodwill and to make the Paris Conference progress, by order of the Central Committee of the South Viet Nam NLF, the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation has at this 16th session expounded the four points concerning the "principles and main content of an overall solution to the South Viet Nam problem to help restore peace in Viet Nam."

The Delegation of the Government of the DRVN declares its full approval and unreserved support of the ten-point overall solution set forth by the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, because this solution conforms to the four-point stand of the Government of the DRVN:

- that solution actually ensures the Vietnamese people's fundamental national rights, namely independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity, it embodies the Vietnamese people's sacred right to decide by themselves their destiny, without foreign interference, as recognized by the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam.

- that solution stresses the Vietnamese people's right to fight for the defence of their fatherland against aggression and for the achievement of their national rights, it demands that the U.S. government put an end to its war of aggression in South Viet Nam, withdraw from South Viet Nam all U.S. troops and troops of its personnel, arms and war material and all troops, military

personnel, arms and war material of the other foreign countries in the U.S. camp without posing any condition whatsoever. It once again rejects the U.S. absurd arguments about "mutual withdrawal" and about a "conditional withdrawal of troops", which in fact consist in equating the victim of aggression - the Vietnamese people, with the aggressor - the U.S.

As far as the problem of the Vietnamese armed forces in South Viet Nam is concerned, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam fully shares the view of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation that the DMZ and the modalities for movements across the provisional military demarcation line also be worked out by the two zones.

- that solution demands that the U.S. put a final end to its violations of the sovereignty and security of the DRVN, and that it be held responsible for the damages and destruction it has caused to the DRVN as well as to the South Viet Nam people. This is a very legitimate demand.

I think it necessary to add that the ten-point overall solution advanced by the South Viet Nam NLF is utterly correct because it is based upon the present real situation in Viet Nam. The real situation that during the past 15 years, the U.S. has sabotaged the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam, infringed upon and undermined the fundamental national rights of the Vietnamese people and has directly waged a war of aggression with more than half a million U.S. expeditionary troops. The real situation is that the South Viet Nam people, under the leadership of the NLF, have waged a war of resistance against U.S. aggression and have recorded many great victories. The real situation is that the South Viet Nam NLF, which organizes and leads the South Viet Nam people in their war of resistance, is their authentic representative, and it is competent to settle all questions relating to South Viet Nam. Any solution that flies in the face of these realities is of no value.

The Government of the DRVN fully approves of this viewpoint and unreservedly supports the right of the South Viet Nam people, pending the peaceful reunification of Viet Nam, to decide by themselves their internal affairs, without foreign interference.

That solution stresses that the reunification of Viet Nam will be achieved step by step, by peaceful means, through discussions and agreement between the two zones, without foreign interference. Pending national reunification, the two zones re-establish normal relations in all fields on the basis of mutual respect. They undertake to refrain from joining any military alliance with foreign countries, troops and military personnel on their respective soil, and not to recognize the protection of any country, or military alliance of bloc.

The Government of the DRVN reaffirms the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam and the military demarcation line between the two zones at the 17th parallel is of a provisional character only, a matter of Viet Nam's internal affairs, and does not constitute a boundary between two states. The status of the DMZ and the modalities for movements across the provisional military demarcation line also be worked out by the two zones.

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Mr. XUAN THUY's Statement

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(Continued page 2)

Complete Failure of U.S. Neo-Colonialism in South Viet Nam

By Prof. L. V. H. (South Viet Nam)

(Continued from last issue)

IV - U.S.-PUPPET POLITICAL AGGRESSION AND TREASON IN SOUTH VIET NAM CITIES

True nature of successive puppet administrations.

AS an integral part of U.S. neo-colonialism, the existence of a series of U.S.-installed administrations in South Viet Nam has also been a factor of social unrest and rottenness. To the South Viet Nam townspeople, these administrations from the Diem-Nhu brothers to the present Thieu-Ky-Huong clique have essentially been the same: groups of traitors to the country, ready to double cross one another obstinately clinging to their positions and prebends by means of political intrigue, police repression, and above all, depending ever-on of them on the US imperialists for their existence.

Corruption, rottenness and incapability are the permanent and common features of the chiefs of the puppet administration and army, such as the "president", "premier" and "commander-in-chief". These inherent vices have plagued the ranks of the puppets in all branches and at all levels of their administration and army, though against the will of the chiefs. From ministers, vice ministers, corps army commanders, generals and officers down to pilots, non-coms, police, civil servants, and simple office clerks, all are engaged in a frantic competition to misuse power, dilapidate and embezzle public funds, steal foreign aid and welfare allowances, extort the people in all ways and by all means.

The Saigon press has wrily pointed out that it is the arch crooks who have staged such farces as anti-corruption committees... or noisy but hollow "campaigns against corruption". At bottom, all these are but puppet ruler's contentions for privileges or tentative mutual liquidations. In the end, nothing has changed and the puppet chiefs just carry on their business and continue to provide a shield for their protégés to do business. Recently puppet premier Tran Van Huong himself admitted: "If corruption is completely rooted out, then we will have to eliminate a lot of people and there will be nobody left to work" (UPI, Oct. 8, 1968).

Rigging elections is also a customary method used by the puppet administrations. Their brazen and repulsive fraudulent manoeuvres renewed every now and then have

been openly spurned and spat upon by the public, at times rather strongly. The 1966 election to the puppet constituent assembly, the elections to the upper and lower houses were followed by teach ins, demonstrations and protests by youths, students, workers and the losing candidates. The puppet administrations have always replied with police victimization and massive arrests.

As for acts of repression and terror, they have been as savage as innumerable. All through the past 11 years, the puppet administration has always sought to intimidate the townsfolk by shipping up an atmosphere of fear and suspicion, multiplying threats and putting into operation a huge machine of repression consisting of the police, military police, security service, secret agents, spies, informers... in the glare of publicity kept in behind prison bars: bloody crack-down on demonstrators, rounding up of draft dodgers, searches of houses and enclosures of private periods, beating up, torture, summary executions of those who fell into their hands in disregard of the laws and constitutions enacted by themselves.

Such measures have been stepped up to cope with the violent reaction of the masses: roving military tribunals have been instituted which allow defence nor appeal; sand-bagged execution grounds have been set up (at the initiative of fascist Nguyen Cao Ky, a loyal disciple of Hitler). They have also promulgated fascist laws such as the decrees 10/50 10/68, imposed military curfews, decreed the state of war and general mobilization, thus causing a permanent threat and tension to the life of the townspeople. Understandably, in such an atmosphere of fascist terror, and in such a lawless regime, agents and spies are constantly mental strain and permanent feeling of insecurity and fear for their lives.

One of the most typical products of the inhumanity of the puppet administration is the wicked thugs. These are the most heinous, dangerous and effective agents used by the U.S. puppets to suppress the people and check the revolution. These bloody-minded monsters who have lost all human feeling can be divided into several categories, namely: the U.S. commands. They are paid to lead, to loot, to rape, to cut off heads, to slit bellies, to

eat their victims' liver and drink their blood, to wear their teeth, dried ears or galls as ornaments. They may beat and rob people in the streets without the police or military police daring to do anything about it. In Saigon, the people of Hue, Da Nang, Nha Trang... have been many times victims of daylight robberies by commands, notably following the summer of 1966 and the spring of 1968.

Another kind of hired killers comprises men trained by the Americans into professional torturers at the police stations or in interrogation service... They are called "men twistors". Some of them served the French colonialists in the past and have been a dozen years now on U.S.-puppet pay rolls. They are glib, coolers and jail personnel whose job it is to man-handle, torture and put to death the patriots kept in a prison regime which probably is unparalleled in the world in barbarity.

Racial discrimination, gangsterism, violence and murders by Americans in the towns.

SOCIAL life in the South Viet Nam countryside has been thrown topsy-turvy by the massive introduction of hundreds of thousands of U.S. expeditionary troops. The latter behave arrogantly toward the townspeople like undisguised occupation aggressors, against the wishes of their chiefs. With innumerable acts of racial discrimination, bullying, contempt, gangsterism, violence and murders, they openly flaunt elementary human rights and brazenly jeopardize the lives and property of the Vietnamese people.

U.S. and satellite troops behave more overbearing in the cities. Often enough they don't pay their fares and bills, rob the people of their belongings and money. Sometimes there were real organized robberies such as the one occurring in mid-1968 in Cam Ranh. They hog wildly in the streets, causing hundreds of serious car accidents. They abuse and beat up passerby and their employees. They also hit puppet public employees, beat up and swallow them. They have also murdered Vietnamese with knives and guns, through "mistaken shoot-outs" or "mistaken bombings" and each year thousands of people die in such irresponsible killings. They caught red-handed and con-

vinced of murder by written indictment, they pay some hundred dollars or a few ten thousand South Vietnamese piasters damages. In no case did puppet law dare intervene when the Americans kidnaped women in the streets, raped them to death then threw their corpses in an open ground or a garbage dump, or when Americans committed sexual violence upon wives of puppet civil servants or soldiers right in cabarets or dancing houses. The Saigon press is full of such stories and denounces the puppet administration, winking at the unruly U.S. soldiers' offences and letting them trample on the dignity and honour of the Vietnamese people.

Popular feeling against these piling gangsterish acts of the U.S. aggressors teeming in the South Viet Nam cities has been running high from the poor sections to the wealthy and upper strata. Just as a Western news agency has noted in Saigon, the "most obvious point of friction is the fact that the mass of 30,000 Americans have occupied the beautiful houses and dwelling places, got into the habit of hiring most of the labour for their own fares spiralling and monopolized all the best restaurants and even the most beautiful girls" (Renter, June 9 and 21, 1967). A French correspondent noted: The rift between the two allies has been too wide, the one showing too much disdain for the other who is angry and humiliated by his ally's behaviour. In all the South Vietnamese civilian and military circles, there have been persistent complaints and denunciations like these: "They show no respect to our independence". "They are behaving as if they were in an occupied country". "South Viet Nam is becoming the 52nd state of America". In fact, the Americans have decided to behave like masters in South Viet Nam. They are paying the death toll, defraying all expenditures. As they pay the piper they have the right to call the tune (Le Figaro, Dec. 18, 1967).

The Vietnamese people have heard of the Americans' scorn for Black Americans and Indians and of racial discrimination in the United States. Now the townspeople of South Viet Nam have seen with their own eyes the U.S. imperialism. Such phrases as "domination by a foreign country" and "neo-colonialist domination" have made sense and taken licence in licensed publications in Saigon. Professor Nguyen Van Trung of the Saigon University, in his treatise on the problems of "War, Revolution, Peace" has tried to analyze neo colonialism and imperialism, for to illustrate the following picture: "In some U.S. Viet Nam cities, you can find a heart-rending sight in the 'only American' bars where groups of Vietnamese children huddle together, drawn by curiosity, have a peep at obscene love-making scenes between women who may be their own mothers and U.S. troops. What will they think, these children, about the 'ideal of freedom and human dignity' which they are surrounded by filled with the wild rhythm of rock'n roll, cigarette smoke, smell of whisky, bare legs and lewd kisses?" (3).

Reaction of the South Viet Nam townspeople against the squeeze of U.S. neo-colonialism.

AFTER being 14 years on the rampage in South Viet Nam, the U.S. neo-colonialism, for all its above-said sinister designs and cruel

manoeuvres, has failed to reach its objectives.

Not only do the peasants and poor sections of the townspeople have a profound hatred for the Americans, and not only have they risen up to fight back, but even religious believers, intellectuals have taken part, in one way or another, in the struggle against the U.S. puppet administration. Buddhist Superior Thich Don Hu issued an appeal (1) asserting in no uncertain terms that "the time of non-violence had gone and it must give way to military violence against the U.S. oppressors. Professor Ly Chanh Trung of the Saigon University brought in this forceful verdict against the American policy in Viet Nam: "As a Vietnamese, I can no longer stand the sight of foreigners openly devastating my country with the most modern and horrible means under the pretext of the American freedom, a nauseating freedom that has all along these years been forced upon the South Vietnamese people. Unfortunately, we have the latter enjoyed freedom, never have they been left to decide their own destiny, for it is because the U.S. aggressors and traitors.

Their concerted efforts helped trigger off the impetuous waves of offensives and uprisings of the patriotic revolutionary forces in South Viet Nam cities in early Spring 1968 which have been going on until now through the Spring offensives and uprisings this year. Youth, students, intellectuals, writers and artists, workers, small traders, Buddhists... have turned the towns into a political front and a potential battlefield which will facilitate the outbreak of the armed struggle right in the town and city, the sanctuary of the U.S.-puppets.

There is no denying that the manoeuvres of U.S. neo-colonialism in South Viet Nam in every domain of economic, culture, literature and arts, and social life, have failed ignominiously and comprehensively. It is not that those moves were not perfidious and dangerous or were not extensive enough. Neither were they not costly to the U.S. imperialists. But it is precisely because they have met with a stiff resistance from the Vietnamese people, with the uncompromising patriotism, the very democratic and humanist tradition of the city folk in South Viet Nam who have been stimulated by the U.S. imperialism and the whole country.

Therefore, it is evident that the U.S. imperialists have failed and it is equally evident that they will be completely in their own scheme to invade and subjugate South Viet Nam by means of neo-colonialism, whatever form it may assume.

(1) A well-known Buddhist leader in South Viet Nam, now Vice-President of the Viet Nam Democratic and Peace Front, organized by the Saigon General Students' Union in early September 1968.

(2) Statement at a teach-in organized by the Saigon General Students' Union in early September 1968.

(3) "Nham Dink" (Assessments), Tome IV published by Nam Son, Saigon 1966.

US-puppets, especially since 1968. In spite of all intimidation, bribery and persecution, many teach-ins, work stoppages, students' and market strikes, break-aways from the puppet administration, meetings, demonstrations, acts of sabotage, hunger strikes, self-immolations have been staged to press for the replacement of the Thieu-Ky clique, cessation of the U.S. intervention and of encroachments upon the national sovereignty of Viet Nam. These also include active and stirring actions in the economic, social and cultural fields involving the Peace Movement, the Movement for Self-Determination, the Committee for Economic Sovereignty, the Force in Defence of the Spiritual Life of Youngster, the Association in Defence of the Dignity and Interests of Women, the Force in Defence of the National Culture, the Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces... All these forces have been steadily aggravating the conflict between the U.S.-puppets and the people, upholding the indomitable and courageous spirit of the patriots and all national-minded persons, and fostering such hatred for the aggressors and traitors.

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(3) "Nham Dink" (Assessments), Tome IV published by Nam Son, Saigon 1966.

the Indo-Chinese countries will be strengthened so that the Indo-Chinese peninsula may become an area of peace and economic progress. The answer to these questions now rests with U.S.

The Government of the DRVN and the Vietnamese people welcome the initiative of Sandesh Norodom Sihanouk, Chief of State of Cambodia, according to which "the Indo-Chinese countries pledge themselves not to accept foreign troops and military bases in their respective soil and not to join any military alliance". This position conforms to the principles of the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Indo-China and of the 1962 Geneva Agreements on Laos.

LESSONS OF DIEN BIEN PHU

(Continued from page 3)

mountain areas, with the original and unusual methods of fighting of the patriotic, intelligent, resourceful and courageous Vietnamese.

In the North, our armed forces and people have replied in a creative manner to the U.S. military line-broadly into play the might of the people's war, defeated the U.S. imperialist war of destruction, foiled a strategic scheme and partly thwarted their aggression against our country.

The tremendous and all-sided achievements in both parts of our country further prove that the historic lessons of Dien Bien Phu are still of use. With a very strong resolve to fight and capable of devising clever methods of fighting, our people are frustrating all vicious and perfidious aggressive manoeuvres of the U.S. imperialists, winning one success after another and will surely carry the day.

(...) The great successes of our Southern people and fighters, and the Northern armed forces and people's victorious resistance to the U.S. war of destruction are clear manifestations of our determination to fight and to win. They spell out the unshakable resolve of the Vietnamese people who have a history of very valiant fight against foreign aggression and who are resolutely bringing up their sacred resistance to U.S. aggression for national salvation until complete victory, in implementation of President Ho Chi Minh's instruction: "Even if only one aggressor remains on our soil we must go on fighting and bringing him back."

The U.S. imperialists are sustaining big setbacks. They are confronted with ever growing difficulties in Viet Nam in the world and at home. Yet they remain very obdurate and still nurture the fantastic hope of securing a strong position on

Mr. XUAN THUY's Statement

(Continued from page 5)

The ten-point overall solution expounded by the South Viet Nam NFL is an important initiative.

Can the war in Viet Nam be ended? Can the Paris Conference progress? The answer to these questions now rests with U.S.

If the U.S. authorities have a realistic view and approach, if they are determined to stop their policy of aggression in Viet Nam and are ready to settle the South Viet Nam problem in conformity with the ten-point overall solution of the South Viet Nam NFL, peace will be restored in Viet Nam, the U.S. will get out from the costly, unjust and immoral war, and its honour and prestige will be redeemed.

Central Trung Bo

(Continued from page 3)

We sternly warn the U.S. aggressors that they will not achieve anything, and certainly only bring upon themselves still heavier setbacks and

initial reports say that in Central Trung Bo 177 mutinies were staged by patriotic 'army men of the puppet army in the first trimester of 1969.

The mutinies killed or wounded 1,075 GIs, puppet troops and Pak Jung Hu mercenaries. They destroyed 29 military vehicles of various kinds, 3 cannons and one 106.7 mm mortar, 2 weapon dumps with more than 5,000 pieces, 2 cases of miscellaneous military equipment, 1,000 mortar shells.

(1) In 1253, Mongol Emperor Kublai Khan of the Yuan dynasty, wanting to conquer Viet Nam, dispatched there a 500,000-troop army commanded by his grandson under the pretext of bringing a transit route to make to the kingdom then situated South of Viet Nam. Confronted with such a dangerous threat, the King of Viet Nam gathered in 1284 at the Dien Huong Palace an assembly of notable whom he asked to advise on the best course of action. The meeting went solid for resistance. The following year, after fierce a tragic retreat, the Vietnamese army counter-attacked and put to rout 100,000 men sent to Viet Nam in 1287 but was in its turn rapidly impeded out after a resistance of a little more than a year.

(2) Viet revolutionary movements launching big setbacks. In the darkest days of the Ngo Dinh Diem fascist regime which was on the verge of collapse under the impact of popular actions, Washington, had to throw into battle tens of thousands of dollars as

(Foot-note are ours-Ed).

seriously the overall solution of the South Viet Nam problem, put forward by the South Viet Nam NFL.

The Government of the DRVN and the Vietnamese people especially call on the American people and all peace- and justice-loving citizens to demand, for the sake of the South Viet Nam, that the U.S. government take a serious attitude towards the ten sensible and reasonable points of the front, end its war of aggression in Viet Nam and bring American boys back to their families.

The Vietnamese people and the Government of the DRVN are firmly convinced that, with the iron-determination of the national unity throughout the country to fight against aggression, and with the ever growing sympathy and support of the people of the world, the Vietnamese people's just struggle for real independence, freedom and peace will without doubt be crowned with victory.

177 PUPPET TROOPS' MUTINIES IN 3 MONTHS

(Continued from page 3)

the number of mutinies in the first trimester of 1969 surpassed one half of all mutinies occurring in the whole of 1968. The total of enemy lives wiped out, many of them officers, was nearly one-half of all forces expelled out in Viet Nam. The amount of military equipment destroyed surpassed by far that of last year.

Mutinies in the puppet army broke out in nearly all provinces of Central Trung Bo: in Quang Ngai 38 mutinies, in Binh Dinh 37, in South Quang Nam 16, in Phu Yen 12, in Gai Lai 4, in Durlac 3, and especially in North Quang Nam 65.

During the same period, in Central Trung Bo 10,000 puppet army men left their ranks either to return to their families or to take part in the resistance in the free zone. Besides, a company, 29 platoons and 3 "rural pacification" teams were disbanded following desertions.

(Foot-note are ours-Ed).

IN THE LARGE SOUTHERN FRONT

MILITARY OPERATIONS

CAMBODIA-NFL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS RAISED TO EMBASSY

REPORTS say that in the Mekong Delta, in the 11 days ending April 20, the regional troops and guerrillas of My Tho province, some 60 km Southwest of Saigon, mounted 70 actions, inflicting on the enemy 850 casualties among them 100 GI's, destroying 37 vehicles and 6 artillery pieces and grounding 14 helicopters and planes. More than 4,000 people in occupied areas rose up, made away with 100 notorious secret agents and traitors and disarmed and sent home more than 100 puppet civil guards.

Not far from Ham Luong, 70 km Southwest of Saigon, in the province of Ben Tre, the PLAF wrote off a master-roll a puppet company, putting more than 100 troops out of action. Then repulsing attacks by enemy reinforcements on 18 occasions they took another total of about 100 U.S.-puppet lives.

Further Southwest, guerrillas of Vinh Thuan district, 210 km from Saigon, relentlessly harassed an enemy force of 2,000 men on a raiding mission against several villages. Between April 23 and May 2, they put out of action 200 adverse soldiers of whom 140 fell to the guns of a unit of militia women. In a single shelling on May 2 against the Vinh Thuan sub-sector H.Q., this unit wiped out 70 enemy men, damaged beyond repair 6 105-mm cannons and burnt 2 tons of shells and rockets and 8 fuel drums.

In Quang Tri province, the U.S.-puppets also suffered heavy losses. In the sector south of the DMZ at the 17th parallel, 70 PLAF onslaughts between April 21 and April 30 cost the enemy 1,250 casualties, among them 600 GI's, 20 helicopters and planes downed or destroyed, to other aircraft damaged, 20 vehicles and 5 heavy mortars destroyed and 2 vessels sunk. On Hill 126, 10 km North of Tam Lo, a company of Battalion 5, puppet Regiment 2, was knocked out on April 28 and 20 days later, it was the turn of another company of the same regiment.

In the La Dat and A So areas, some 40 km Southwest of Hue, about 10 GI's were killed or wounded and 5 aircraft shot down in the first 5 days of May.

Further South, in the Nha Trang sector, on April 20 regional troops harassed the enemy throughout the day and put out of action some 100 adverse troops including 50 Seoul mercenaries.

Combat news released by Giai Phong press agency this week focused on 3 main theatres of operations: the Saigon front, especially to the North and Northwest of the city, the Mekong Delta and the northernmost sector of South Viet Nam in Quang Tri province.

On the Saigon front, the patriots were very active in Tay Ninh province,

more than 50 km Northwest of the capital. Two major annihilation battles were won on May 1 and May 6 respectively at Cay Cho and Dong Pan. In the first, the PLAF destroyed a battalion H.Q. and wiped out 3 puppet troop companies, brought down 6 helicopters and seized many weapons. At Dong Pan, some 100 km Northwest of Saigon and 26 km North-Northeast of Tay Ninh, 2 U.S. infantry companies and 3 U.S. artillery companies were put out of action.

Not far from Go Dau, a military sub-sector H.Q., 57 km Northwest of Saigon, the PLAF sank on April 22 enemy patrol boats on Vam Co Dong river and the next day, intercepting a 6-vessel flotilla on the same river, they sent to the bottom 5 craft and wiped out the 3 U.S. platoons on board. On April 22, in the same sector, Gia Binh post, 50 km Northwest of Saigon, was taken. Of some 100 men garrisoned at this post and assigned the pacification job, only 12 could escape whereas all others were put out of action.

Further, near the Cambodian border, the battles around Ca Tum, an enemy forward post and C.P., 170 km Northwest of Saigon, also in Tay Ninh province, in the 10-day period from April 18 to April 27, cost the enemy 100 casualties, mostly GI's, killed or wounded, 10 M-41 tanks and M-113 armoured carriers destroyed and 5 helicopters shot down. On April 24

alone, guerrillas destroyed 3 tanks of the U.S. 18th Armoured Cavalry Regiment on the Ca Tum - Can Le route.

In a neighbouring province, a successful ambush was laid by the patriots on Route No. 13 south of Hon Quan, about 87 km North of Saigon. After 30 minutes' fighting, the PLAF destroyed 25 vehicles including 17



Enemy armoured cars destroyed by PLAF at Tay Ninh, South Viet Nam.

armoured cars, shot down 5 helicopters and wiped out a U.S. infantry company and a U.S. motorized company. On May 2 and 3, two other ambushes set on the same route between Chon Thanh

and the South Viet Nam NFL that prompted by their desire to further strengthen the existing fraternal friendship between them, the authorities of both parties had agreed to raise to embassy level their diplomatic relations.



and Hon Quan cost the enemy 24 other vehicles destroyed.

Lastly, in the Ben Cat area, 45 km North-Northeast of Saigon, regional troops successfully fought off an

enemy sw. which began on April 1. In 3 engagements on Apr. 10, 20 and 21, they killed or wounded 150 GI's, wrecked 10 tanks and armoured cars and brought down 4 helicopters.

News in Brief

SAIGON WORKERS STEP UP ACTIONS

ON the occasion of the International Labour Day, despite Thieu-Ky-Huong's crack-down and demagogic stunts, the Saigon workers and labouring people stepped up their struggle for social, democratic and economic rights, while denouncing the treason of the working class by Tran Quoc Bui, an agent of the ruling clique and "President of the Trade Unions" in the temporarily-occupied zone, GPA reported.

On the morning of May 1, during a meeting of over 5,000 representatives of 123 Saigon trade-unions, Tran Quoc Bui's agents, disguised as workers' movement, demagogic mottoes aimed at dividing and misleading the workers' movement. However, the participants laid bare the scheme of the renegades and forced the latter into acceptance of such claims as participation in the management of the enterprises, amendment of the labour law, increase of minimum wages, trade-union leaders, abolition of the "general mobilization" decree, etc.

On the same day, braving police ban, hundreds of work-

ers from the public transport service gathered on the pavements of Le Van Duyet, Nguyen Anh, Nguyen Du and Cao Thang streets, carrying signs urging improvement of their living conditions.

Within their trade-unions, the workers denounced the demagogic manoeuvres of Thieu-Ky-Huong to hamstring, lead astray and undermine the workers' movement. They unmasked the agents of this clique who had infiltrated their ranks, demanded cancellation of the 10-68 fascist law, enforcement of trade-union rights, increase of wages, reduction of the living costs, income-tax slashes, end of the aggressive war and respect of the right for the South Vietnamese to shape their own destinies.

According to the same source, the Saigon dockers indignant at the obstinate and arrogant attitude of the American employers, carried on their strike and maintained on their claims.

Following the strike of 300 Saigon dockers on April 29, representatives of 5,000

dockers called an emergency meeting to demonstrate their determination to fight and their support to the action of 200 fellow-workers in the transport service of the U.S. 125th battalion.

The stoppage was still

COMMITTEE FOR THE RELEASE OF THICH THIEN MINH SET UP

A group called "Committee for the Release of Thich Thien Minh" has just been set up by well-known Saigon intellectuals and representatives of religious sects of South Viet Nam. Western sources reported. Superior Bonze Thich Thien Minh was arbitrarily sentenced to 10 years of hard labour and 5 years of confinement by a court of the Thieu-Ky-Huong puppet clique. A UPI dispatch

going on May 1.

Meanwhile, over 1,000 workers of the BGI (Breweries and Ice-boxes of Indochina) required of their employers a wage-like and satisfaction of the claims put forward since November last.

pointed out that the founding of this committee was an indication of the popular support to the Buddhist believers.

In April last, one still remembers, 77 "deputies" of the so-called House of Representatives signed a petition to puppet Nguyen Van Thieu demanding revision of the verdict and immediate release of Thich Thien Minh.

PUPPET M.P. REVEALS DEVILS ISLANDS DETAINEES' PLIGHT

ACCORDING to the paper *Chinh Luu* (Just Voice) appearing in Saigon, Ho Ngoc Nhuon, a "deputy" to the puppet National Assembly, has just revealed after a trip to Poulo Condor that the number of deportees had doubled as under Ngoc Dinh Diem. After Ho Ngoc Nhuon, the reason was that many people had been sent there following arrests during "mopping-up" opera-

tions in Quang Nam, Quang Ngai and Quang Tri provinces.

More than 400 people, the puppet M.P. added, were still in jail although their terms had ended two or three months ago. Besides, over 500 prisoners over 50, 60 years of age, gravely affected by incurable diseases, were desperately waiting for their return to the native land.